



PROVEN FINE FOOD

2009 Great Taste Awards Gold winners are announced:

Burtree Puddings, Beckleberry's and Loopy Lisa's Fudge fly the flag for the Northeast

(all Northeast winners listed below)

The Guild of Fine Food has just announced the Gold winners of the Great Taste Awards 2009. The Awards are nationally recognised as *the* independent benchmark for fine foods, and each gold winner will have been blind tasted by a minimum of eight experts. High profile judges this year included Charles Champion, Anthony Worrall-Thompson, Sarah Jane Evans MW and Amy Lame. This year, out of a total of 4873 entries, 1030 products were awarded Gold; most were awarded one star (639), 308 were awarded two stars and just 83 were awarded the highest accolade of three-star gold, reserved for products that are considered faultless.

Leading the charge for the Northeast were Burtree Puddings, Beckleberry's and Loopy Lisa's Fudge. Burtree Puddings won a coveted three-star gold award for their Free Range Chicken, and two one-star gold awards for their Sticky Ginger Pudding and Golden Syrup Pudding. Beckleberry's, who won the title of Supreme Champion in 2008 for their Blackcurrant and Kirsch Sorbet, also had several winners including a three-star gold award for their Sloe Gin Sorbet and no less than *four* one-star gold awards for their White Chocolate Cheesecake, White Chocolate Espresso Ice Cream, Mandarin Sorbet and Green Apple and Calvados Sorbet. Loopy Lisa's Fudge took home three one-star golds for their Butter Tablet, Honey and Almond Fudge and Ginger Fudge.

The awards ceremony for the 'Oscars of the Fine Food World' will take place at a glittering event at Fortnum & Mason's on September 7th, when the Supreme Judging Panel will taste all regional winners live in front of a packed crowd to decide which entry is to be crowned Supreme Champion 2009. Blur

bass player, farmer and writer Alex James, chef Mark Hix, and Thomasina Miers of Masterchef fame are among those already confirmed for the panel.

Now in their 16th year, the Awards have gone from strength to strength and many consumers recognise the distinctive black and gold logo as a sign of excellence. However, winning an award is much more than recognition for excellence; it is one of the most powerful tools to help grow business in the speciality food sector. Peter Craig, Director of Beckleberry's, who won Supreme Champion last year commented that "you couldn't buy the kind of endorsement and publicity we received, and the list of outlets we now supply has grown beyond our wildest dreams."

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Notes to Editors:

All Northeast winners are as follows:

Award	Description	Company	email address
1 Star	Christmas Pudding	All Things Delicious	
1 star	Golden Syrup Pudding	Burtree Puddings	enquiries@burtreepuddings.co.uk
1 star	Rich Toffee Pudding	Burtree Puddings	enquiries@burtreepuddings.co.uk
3 star	Free-Range Chicken produced by Burtree House	Burtree Puddings	enquiries@burtreepuddings.co.uk
1 star	Chicken, Bramley & Chilli Sausages	Debbie & Andrew's Ltd	debbie@debbieandandrews.co.uk
1 star	Gooseberry Jam	J. R. Jams	j.read@blueyonder.co.uk
1 Star	Northumbria Rice Cake	Jenkins & Hustwit Ltd	enquiries@jenkinsandhustwit.com
1 star	Honey & Almond Fudge	Loopy Lisa's	info@loopylisasfudge.co.uk
1 star	Ginger Fudge	Loopy Lisa's	info@loopylisasfudge.co.uk
1 star	Butter Tablet	Loopy Lisa's	info@loopylisasfudge.co.uk
1 star	Northumbrian Sausage	Rothbury Family Butchers	enqs@rothburyfamilybutchers.co.uk
2 star	Sticky Ginger Pudding	The Proof of the Pudding	sales@theproofofthepudding.co.uk
1 star	White Chocolate Cheese Cake	Beckleberrys t/a Artisan Foods	iancraig@beckleberrys.co.uk
1 star	White Chocolate Espresso Ice Cream	Beckleberrys t/a Artisan Foods	iancraig@beckleberrys.co.uk
1 star	Mandarin Sorbet	Beckleberrys t/a Artisan Foods	iancraig@beckleberrys.co.uk
3 star	Sloe Gin Sorbet	Beckleberrys t/a Artisan Foods	iancraig@beckleberrys.co.uk
1 star	Green Apple & Calvados Sorbet	Beckleberrys t/a Artisan Foods	iancraig@beckleberrys.co.uk

1 star	Fortnum & Mason Vanilla Fudge	Loopy Lisa's	info@loopylisasfudge.co.uk
1 star	Chocolate Peanut Butter Crunch Ice Cream	Mark Toney & Co Ltd	enquiries@marktoney.co.uk

- The Great Taste Awards is organised annually by the Guild of Fine Food
- <http://www.finefoodworld.co.uk>
- The Great Taste Awards has, over 15 years, become the 'Oscars' of speciality food and drink. From the start, all foods have been blind tasted by a panel of independent judges from all parts of the fine food business, with gold awards going to those products considered faultless. The awards have changed the lives of many producers, helping them grow from small-scale locally-known brands to nationally accredited fine food brands. More than 1,000 products received Great Taste Award gold stars in 2008.

For more information on the Great Taste Awards, please contact:

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